

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all previous claim listings:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for providing a personalized ring back tone, comprising:
receiving a location request return result message at a mobile switching center (MSC);
responsive to receiving the location request return result message, transmitting an initial address message (IAM) to initiate seizure of an outgoing circuit and to provide call routing information to a personal ring back tone platform;

responsive to transmitting the IAM, receiving an address complete message (ACM)

including an optional backward call indicator parameter at the MSC; ~~and~~

accepting at least one call leg at the personal ring back tone platform;

receiving the personalized ring back tone from the personal ring back tone platform while

normal call progress of an active call is occurring; and

playing the personalized ring back tone as an audible indicator during the normal call

progress of the active call.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the location request message is sent by a user's HLR.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the personalized ring back tone is provided to a user's device.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the personalized ring back tone is provided via an open reverse voice path between the personal ring back tone platform and the device.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1 comprising, if the ACM is received without the optional backward call indicator parameter, receiving a call progress message with an optional backward call indicator parameter at the MSC.
6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5 comprising providing the personalized ring back tone from the personal ring back tone platform based on the received call progress message.
7. (Original) The method of claim 2 comprising receiving an IAM from the MSC to a terminating network.
8. (Original) The method of claim 7 comprising receiving an ACM from the terminating network to the MSC.
9. (Original) The method of claim 8 comprising receiving an answer message (ANM) from the terminating network to the MSC.
10. (Original) The method of claim 9 comprising receiving a release message from the MSC to the personal ring back tone platform.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the personalized ring back tone is no longer provided based on at least one of: the received release message or the ANM.
12. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the calling party device is joined with a called party device.
13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the called party device is associated with the ANM.
14. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the terminating network includes the MSC.
15. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the terminating network includes another MSC.
16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the optional backward call indicator parameter includes at least one of:
 - an element header;
 - an in-band information indicator=1;
 - a call forward may occur indicator;
 - a simple segmentation indicator;
 - a network excessive delay indicator;
 - a user-network interaction indicator=1;

a MLPP user indicator; spare bits; and
reserved bits.

17. (Currently Amended) A method for providing a ring back tone, comprising:
receiving an initial address message (IAM) at a sound platform from a mobile switching center (MSC), the IAM initiating seizure of an outgoing circuit and providing call routing information to the sound platform;

receiving an address complete message (ACM) including an optional backward call indicator parameter at the MSC from the sound platform;~~and~~

accepting at least one call leg at the sound platform;

receiving the ring back tone from the sound platform while normal call progress of an active call is occurring; and

playing the ring back tone as an audible indicator during the normal call progress of the active call.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the ring back tone is received by a device associated with the IAM.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein the ring back tone is based on at least one of: a called party, a called party number, a called party device, a calling party, a calling party number, a calling party device, a time of day, a day of the year, or a location.

20. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer readable storage medium comprising instructions that when executed by a processor cause the processor to perform:

transmitting an initial address message (IAM) to a first module from a mobile switching center (MSC), the IAM initiating seizure of an outgoing circuit and providing call routing

information to ~~the~~ a sound platform;

receiving an address complete message (ACM) including an optional backward call indicator at the MSC from the first module; ~~and~~

accepting at least one call leg at the sound platform;

receiving a ring back tone from the first module responsive to the received optional backward call indicator, the ring back tone being received while normal call progress of an active call is occurring; and

playing the ring back tone as an audible indicator during the normal call progress of the active call.

21. (Currently Amended) A system for providing a personalized ring back tone, comprising:

a mobile switching center (MSC) configured to:

receive a location request return result message,

and responsive to receiving the location request return result message, transmit an initial address message (IAM) to initiate seizure of an outgoing circuit and to provide call routing information to a personal ring back tone module; and

the personal ring back tone module operably coupled to the MSC, the personal ring back tone module configured to:

accept at least one call leg of multiple call legs to connect a calling party, via the at least one call leg, to the personalized ring back tone, the connection to the personalized ring back tone is responsive to a received address complete message (ACM) including an optional backward call indicator parameter;

accept at least one call leg at the personal ring back tone module;

request a voice channel to be opened; and

receive the personalized ring back tone from the personal ring back tone module while normal call progress of an active call is occurring;

play the personalized ring tone via the voice channel as an audible indicator during normal call progress of an active call.

22. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21, wherein the personal ring back tone module includes identifiers to a called party's sound files.

23. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 22, wherein the personal ring back tone module receives an indication of the calling party from the MSC and based on the indication, provides a sound file identifier.

24. (Original) The system of claim 23, wherein the personalized ring tone is played to a calling party based on the received sound file identifier.

25. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein a second call leg of the multiple call legs is used to attempt a connection to a mobile number.
26. (Original) The system of claim 25, wherein the personalized ring tone is played while the connection to the mobile number is attempted.
27. (Original) The system of claim 26, wherein the personalized ring tone is stopped when the connection to the mobile number is successful.
28. (Currently Amended) A communications switch adapted to:
- receive a location request return result message;
 - responsive to receiving the location request return result message, transmit an initial address message (IAM) to initiate seizure of an outgoing circuit and to provide call routing information to a personal ring back tone platform;
 - send a first call leg and a second call leg in parallel;
 - accept at least one call leg at the personal ring back tone platform;
 - connect a calling party, via the first call leg, to a personalized ring back tone, the connection to the personalized ring back tone is responsive to a received address complete message (ACM) including an optional backward call indicator parameter;
 - connect the calling party to a called party via the second call leg; ~~and~~
 - release the first call leg upon a connection of the second call leg;

receive the personalized ring back tone from the personal ring back tone platform while
normal call progress of an active call is occurring; and
play the personalized ring back tone as an audible indicator during the normal call
progress of the active call.

29. (Cancelled).

30. (Original) The communications switch of claim 28, wherein the release is based on a received answer message.

31. (Original) The communications switch of claim 28, wherein the switch is at least one of a mobile switching center or an internet protocol based switch.

32. (Currently Amended) A personal ring back tone module adapted to:
receive an initial address message (IAM), the IAM initiating seizure of an outgoing circuit and providing call routing information to the personal ring back tone module;
transmit an address complete message (ACM) including an optional backward call indicator parameter to a mobile switching center (MSC);
accept at least one call leg of multiple call legs to connect a calling party, via the at least one call leg, to a personalized ring back tone, the connection to the personalized ring back tone is based on the received optional backward call indicator parameter;
request a voice channel to be opened;~~and~~

receive the personalized ring back tone from the personal ring back tone platform while
normal call progress of an active call is occurring; and
play the personalized ring tone via the voice channel as an audible indicator during
normal call progress of an active call.